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(b) Yes.
 (c) The Collector reported in July last that the control and preventive measures carried on by the Revenue and Agricultural officers with the co-operation of the public had had very beneficial effects and that the pest had been brought under control without compulsion or recourse to the provisions of the Act, which the Government are loath to apply if it can be avoided. The Act will, however, be introduced if the measures now in operation prove ineffectual. The position is being carefully watched by the Collector and the Agricultural Department.

Criminal settlements in the Guntur district.

369 Q.—Khan Sahib Munshi MUHAMMAD ABDUR RAHMAN SAHIB: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) when the following criminal settlements were established in Guntur district:—

(i) Yerukula settlements at Sitanagaram,
 (ii) Criminal settlements at Stuartspeta near Bapatla, and
 (iii) Reformatory at Guntur;

(b) what the object of the Government was in opening these settlements in taluk towns;

(c) what is the annual expenditure incurred for meeting these three institutions;

(d) whether the Government are aware of the amount of anxiety and trouble caused to the peaceful inhabitants residing in the vicinity;

(e) whether it is a fact that the managers of these settlements are given Local Fund and Public Works Department contracts; and

(f) whether it is a fact that these criminal gangs are kept outside the settlements for days together and their stay in the vicinity of villages is causing trouble to the ryots?

A.—(a) The Sitanagaram settlement was established in the year 1913 and Stuartpuram in 1914. The Guntur settlement was started as a prisoner's home in 1913 and was declared a reformatory settlement under the Criminal Tribes Act in the year 1917.

(b) The hon. Member is presumably referring to Guntur settlement, the other two settlements not being at Taluk headquarters. Guntur settlement is intended for the reception of the incorrigible members of criminal tribes. The policy of Government is generally to locate settlements in places where sufficient work on a remunerative basis is available for the settlers;

(c) The hon. Member's attention is invited to page 198 of the preliminary edition of the Civil Budget Estimate for the year 1922-23;

(d) The Government have no information;

(e) Managers of Sitanagaram and Guntur settlements are occasionally given Local Fund or Public Works Department contract. The Manager of Stuartpuram settlement takes no such contract;

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(f) Gangs are only taken out, under supervision, and the taking of them is only resorted to on the few occasions when work is not available for every one near the settlement. The Government are not aware that this causes any trouble to the ryots.

Muhammadans in the Police Department, Guntur.

370 Q.—Khan Sahib Munshi MUHAMMAD ABDUR RAHMAN SAHIB: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state the number of appointments given to Muhammadans in the district of Guntur carrying a salary of Rs. 60 and upwards in the Police Department in the years 1921 and 1922 as compared with non-Muhammadans, including Brahmans, non-Brahmans and Christians?

A.—The hon. Member will be referred to Appendix F of the Police Administration Report of 1920 in which the last quinquennial return of castes in the Police Department was issued. Information regarding succeeding years will be contained in the returns published under G.O. No. 655, Public, dated the 15th August 1922.

Grant of disafforested lands to depressed classes.

371 Q.—Khan Sahib Munshi MUHAMMAD ABDUR RAHMAN SAHIB: Will the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased—

(i) to lay on the table a statement showing the extent of disafforested reserve lands granted to the depressed classes in the Guntur district in 1922; and

(ii) to state (a) what sort of persons come under the depressed classes; and (b) what is the principle laid in allotting these lands?

A.—(i) The following statement gives the information:—

Name of the taluk.	Name of the reserve.	Extent assigned.
Tenali ..	Kolkalur reserve ..	73.38
Guntur ..	Kuragallu reserve ..	302.76
Vinukonda ..	Guttikonda extension Nos. 7 and 9.	20.00
Palnad ..	Janapad reserve ..	87.00
Do. ..	Mandadi reserve (block 1).	24.00
Do. ..	Mutukur extension No. 4.	3.00
Do. ..	Goli extension I ..	30.00
Total ..		540.14

N.B.—Besides the above extent of 540 acres 14 cents formally assigned to the depressed classes in this year up to now, several large areas recently disafforested especially in Palnad and Vinukonda taluks have been permitted to be occupied by them on sivayijama at five acres each and formal assignments will be made after subdivision of the areas for which a special staff of some revenue inspectors and peons has just been sanctioned. An extent of 300 acres in Lam reserve of Guntur taluk has also been proposed for grant to the Anglo-Evangelical Lutheran Mission for an industrial school and a settlement for the depressed classes, and pending orders 200 acres of this are under temporary cultivation by depressed classes.